

Rabies in Guatemala

On-screen graphic: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Logo, U.S. Department of Health and Human Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

On-screen text: Guatemala

David Moran, DMV, Investigator, Arbovirus and Zoonosis Program, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala: We are not sure about what the main cause of why we still have rabies, since we don't have an exact data of how many dogs we have in the country. Our first efforts are trying to determinate this amount of dogs.

Luis Arreaga, U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala: Rabies is still present in Guatemala and it is present throughout Guatemala. We do have a presence in terms of our programs here, in CDC, to help Guatemala deal with the human side of it as well as the animal side of it.

Dr. Ana Beatriz Gomez Rodriguez, Medical Epidemiologist, Guatemala Ministry of Health: Guatemala continues to be a country with a high presence of canine rabies. Last year we had 2,500 people bitten who went to health care centers.

Danilo Alvarez, DMV, Associate Director, Arbovirus and Zoonosis Program, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala: The answer to control the rabies here in Guatemala is vaccinate at least 80% of the animals. We are working together with the Ministry of Health to improve the surveillance of dogs, improve the lab, the diagnostics. All these things together will help us to control the rabies here in Guatemala.

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